

Lybarger of Boy Scout Troop 17 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

The Eagle Scout rank is the highest advancement rank in scouting. Only about five percent of Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout Award. The award is a performance-based achievement with high standards that have been well-maintained for more than a century.

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout is obligated to pass specific tests that are organized by requirements and merit badges, as well as complete an Eagle Project to benefit the community. For his project, William chose to undertake a major mulching project at Jones Park in Cedar Rapids. He led a large group of volunteers from his community by laying mulch around the entire park, protecting the trees from damage, and beautifying the park in the process. The work ethic William has shown in his Eagle Project and every other project leading up to his Eagle Scout rank speaks volumes of his commitment to serving a cause greater than himself and assisting his community.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young man and his supportive family demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I know that all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating him on reaching the rank of Eagle Scout and wishing him nothing but continued success in his future education and career.

WELCOMING SOUTH KOREAN
PRESIDENT PARK GEUN-HYE
AND RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE
OF THE U.S.-KOREA ALLIANCE

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 9, 2015

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend a warm welcome to the President of the Republic of Korea, Park Geun-hye, who will visit Washington, D.C. for the second time as President next week, on October 13, 2015.

President Park Geun-hye has a long and distinguished career in government prior to her election as President and she has proven a most capable leader for the Korean people.

The alliance between the United States and Korea is founded, first and foremost, on our shared values of democracy and our belief in the rule of law. The U.S.-Korea alliance is a critical aspect of the security architecture in the Asia-Pacific region and continues to grow and expand. Our partnership is critical in defending against the threat of an increasingly belligerent and unpredictable North Korean regime. North Korea continues to threaten stability on the Peninsula through its rogue nuclear program and dangerous conventional and cyber capabilities. The Republic of Korea, however, has been our close friend and ally in this most sensitive and serious endeavor, and we should strive to take our security partnership to new levels in the coming years.

Korea and the United States have also cooperated closely in the development of our ci-

vilian nuclear programs for more than 50 years, and over the last several years our countries have been negotiating a new Nuclear Cooperation Agreement to upgrade and replace the previous accord. Today, the Korea 123 Agreement is under review in the U.S. Congress. I look forward to its passage and our continued work in this important area.

A robust economic relationship between the U.S. and Korea remains an important aspect of our cooperation. The Republic of Korea is the United States' sixth largest trading partner, and during President Park's tenure, we saw the entry-into-force of the U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement.

The U.S.-Korea alliance and the multifaceted ties between our two peoples will surely grow deeper as we continue to work together on myriad issues of common concern. I once again welcome President Park to Washington with my best wishes for a successful visit.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 200TH
BORDER SURVEY ANNIVERSARY
OF PITTSFIELD TOWNSHIP,
MICHIGAN

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 9, 2015

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 200th Border Survey Anniversary of Pittsfield Township, Michigan. This day commemorates the survey which established the borders of this significant municipality.

Pittsfield Township is a vibrant community with a rich history. The area now known as Pittsfield Township was a common crossroads for Native Americans to travel across the country for more than 10,000 years. The land was surveyed on a cold day in 1815 by Alexander Holmes. His work continues to mark the municipality's border with Lodi, Scio, and Ann Arbor Townships. In 1824, Geo. W. Noyes made the purchase of federal land for the township. Originally established as the "Township of Pitt" by the Sixth Legislative Council in 1834, it was named in honor of British statesmen William Pitt the Elder who was a passionate advocate for American interests in Parliament prior to the War of Independence. Settlers of European and African heritage settled this area, cleared the land, erected the first school house in Washtenaw County, and created the foundation of this community.

Although the present territory of this township might be unrecognizable to figures of the past, it continues to grow because of engaged citizens and steady leadership. Pittsfield has strategically built a municipality which successfully balances economic growth, recreational activities, agricultural viability, and preserving green spaces. This township has grown into the third largest municipality in Washtenaw County because of policies that encourage talented residents to foster economic growth. Residents of their community are proud of it and continually make meaningful contributions to their community and the surrounding area.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to celebrate Pittsfield Township's 200th

Border Survey Anniversary. Its history is an important piece of Michigan's heritage and the anniversary provides an occasion to celebrate and remember it.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF
STAFF SERGEANT JONATHAN
LEWIS

HON. ROBERT HURT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 9, 2015

Mr. HURT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself, Representative BOB GOODLATTE, and Representative ROB WITTMAN, I submit these remarks to commemorate the life of Staff Sergeant Jonathan Lewis of Warrenton, Virginia, who passed away September 2, 2015 at age 31.

On the evening of September 2, 2015 at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, a terrible tragedy occurred during training for the Fleet Anti-Terrorism Security Team. Several Marines were injured, and Staff Sergeant Jonathan Lewis, a 31-year-old Fauquier native based at Yorktown Naval Weapons Station, was killed. According to Colonel Jeffrey Kenney, the officer in charge of the Expeditionary Operations Training Group, training for the Fleet Anti-Terrorism Security Teams requires "the highest-caliber Marine, with the dedication and courage to take on the challenge." This, according to Colonel Kenney, was the exact makeup of Sergeant Jonathan Lewis. Sergeant Lewis' uncle, Keith Lewis would like his nephew to be remembered as, "foremost a Marine and just one heck of a human being."

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Lewis family and the Marines with whom he served. Staff Sergeant Lewis selflessly sacrificed so much to preserve our freedoms and our American way of life. It is because of soldiers like him that we may continue to live in the freest nation on Earth. We will remember his tremendous sacrifice and remain forever grateful.

I ask that the members of this House of Representatives join with me, Congressman GOODLATTE, Congressman WITTMAN, and the community of Warrenton, Virginia in honoring the memory of a great American hero.

TRIBUTE TO GREG RASMUSSEN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 9, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Greg Rasmussen of Adair, Iowa. Greg has been awarded the Honorary Warren Coleman Award, the highest honor given by the Iowa Lions Foundation.

Greg has embodied the Lions slogan of "We Serve" by serving as Adair Lions club president and club secretary, along with chairing countless times for pancake breakfasts and soup suppers. He has also been a part of numerous community projects, including improving park playground equipment, city ball park renovations, and a fundraiser for the emergency services department.